

REMARKS

Claims 14-27 are pending. By this Amendment, independent claims 14, 21 and 27 are amended to even further distinguish over the applied references. No new matter is added.

Claims 14-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,721,001 (Berstis) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,237,106 (Koyama et al.). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Patent Office errs in concluding that it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Berstis in view of the teachings provided by Koyama et al. to result in the combinations of features recited in Applicants' independent claims 14, 21 and 27. Accordingly, claims 14-27 are patentable and the rejection should be withdrawn. Applicants respectfully submit that Koyama et al.'s teaching to switch a communication interface circuit, which is merely one portion of the Koyama et al. device, between a sleep mode and an active mode does not suggest modifying the camera of Berstis so that the manually operable power switch of Berstis switches the digital camera from the inoperative state to the operative state. Even when the Koyama et al. interface circuit is in the sleep mode, the Koyama et al. device is still in a mode in which its power switch is in the operative (ON) state. See, for example, col. 7, lines 58-64 of Koyama et al., which indicates that reproduction and recording can take place when the interface circuit is in the sleep mode. The device of Koyama et al. would be incapable of switching from the interface circuit sleep mode to the active mode if the power switch of Koyama et al. were in the state in which the Koyama et al. device is inoperative.

Thus, Koyama et al.'s teaching to switch only an interface circuit between a sleep mode and an active mode does not suggest modifying the Berstis system to result in a controller that controls reading-out and transmission of the digital images from a digital camera memory to a storage medium without a manual operation of the power switch of the

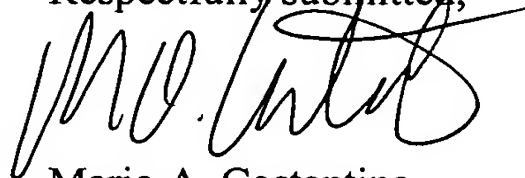
digital camera from the inoperative state to the operative state, as recited in independent claims 14 and 21. For similar reasons, Koyama et al. does not suggest modifying the Berstis camera to have a controller that receives a signal through a first connector for switching the digital camera from the inoperative state to the operative state without a manual operation of the power switch as recited in independent claim 27. None of the references discloses or suggests the controller of claims 14 and 21 that controls reading-out of the digital images from the digital camera memory and the transmission of the digital images from the digital camera memory to the storage medium without a manual operation of the power switch of the digital camera to switch the digital camera from the inoperative state to the operative state as recited in independent claims 14 and 21. None of the references discloses or suggests a camera having the claim 27 controller that receives a signal through the first connector for switching the digital camera from the inoperative state to the operative state without a manual operation of the power switch.

Accordingly, all pending claims are patentable over Berstis and Koyama et al. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC/ccs

Attachments:

Request for Continued Examination
Petition for Extension of Time

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